FISCAL NOTE

HB 30 - SB 1635

March 10, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Human Services to establish a career ladder wage incentive program for childcare providers. The program would use a graduated wage scale to create higher salaries based on educational background, job responsibilities, and years of experience. The scale would create minimum wage requirements for childcare agencies. Requires that childcare agencies *shall not pay less than the department guidelines*.

Childcare agencies could apply for a professionalization and retention subsidy of up to \$1.00 per hour if the agency agrees to pay wages to all its childcare workers not less than the designated salary for a worker with the same education and experience. Contractors could not receive more than \$20,000 per year.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$17,932,800 Recurring \$45,590 One-Time

Assumes:

- 8,500 caregivers will be eligible for the subsidy.
- a need for seven positions and related expenditures in the Department of Human Services to implement the program.
- no federal funding for the program. Any federal funding would have to be shifted from existing programs in the Department of Human Services.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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